

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR VOLUME 42

Welcome to the Society's 1995–1996 program year! The Council has prepared an exciting agenda for the year, including a series of interesting monthly programs, the annual banquet, and the biennial Graduate Student Meeting. The monthly meeting and guest presentations will be held on the third Thursday of the month, at 7:30 p.m., in Valley Life Science Building (VLSB) on the Berkeley campus (the program has been mailed to members). Continuing our tradition started last year, each meeting will be followed by a reception in the lobby of the University and Jepson Herbaria on the lower floor of VLSB. We want to stimulate increased attendance at the meetings and interest in our program, so we encourage all members, friends, and other interested individuals to come whenever possible. Please post the list of speakers and the announcements of the banquet and Graduate Student Meeting.

The Council also is pleased to announce that this year's banquet will be held in southern California at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden (RSA). Mark Porter, our Second Vice-President, is making the arrangements. Ken Berg said he is honored to be this year's speaker, and will be traveling from his busy schedule as BLM's Chief Botanist in Washington, D.C., to make his presentation: *Conservation of Native California Plants in the Changing Political Landscape*. Ken promises to provide an up-to-date and timely accounting of the challenging situation. We enjoyed a successful banquet in Santa Cruz last year and received an enthusiastic and insightful presentation from Mary Barkworth. Thanks again to Dean Taylor for organizing the event, and to Mary for visiting with us.

Lisa Schultheis is the Graduate Student Representative on the CBS Council and is responsible for much of the organization of the Graduate Student Meeting. She has included an initial announcement to stimulate early interest. Please post the flier and circulate it among your students. We look forward to a well-attended and successful event. Continuing another tradition started a few years ago, the Meeting will be held on the same day and at the same institution as the banquet. In an effort to provide greater interaction between the northern and southern botanical "communities" in California, we feel it is important to recognize that the future of the Society rests in a state-wide effort. Thus holding the banquet and Graduate Student Meetings at RSA should help achieve our goals as the California Botanical Society. We will send a mailing regarding the details later in the year.

At this time, I also take the opportunity to announce that the Council is looking for replacements for the positions of Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary. Margriet Wetherwax and Holly Forbes graciously agreed to stay on for a fourth year while we look for their replacements for the three-year commitments. The Council included job descriptions with the program mailing for both these very important and demanding volunteer positions. Please contact Holly (510-643-8040) at the University Botanical Garden for details on the duties of the Treasurer and Margriet (510-643-7008) at the University and Jepson Herbaria for details on the duties of the Corresponding Secretary.

Additional copies of the Jepson Symposium volume of Madroño (42:2) are available @\$20.00. We are quite proud to have been able to provide this important issue with the financial support of The Friends of the Jepson Herbarium. The issue has been referred to as the agenda for botanical investigation and prioritizing in California as we head into the next millennium. Please send your requests and checks to the Treasurer.

I look forward to seeing many of you throughout the year! Thanks for your continuing support of the California Botanical Society.

—WAYNE R. FERREN, JR., President, CBS.